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CHAPTER III.

I SECURE.

That night the temper had his own way with me. Without much difficulty he revealed me that my neglect of Althea Burroughs' children was without my excuse; that what had been my duty toward them when I knew them to be left motherless and alone had become an imperative demand upon me now that the town in which they lived had become overwhelmed by a mystery which could not but affect the comfort and happiness of all its inhabitants. I could not wait a day. I recalled all that I had heard of poor Althea's short and none too happy marriage and immediately felt such a burning desire to see if her delicate and fragile beauty—how well I remembered it!—had been repeated in her daughters that I found myself packing my trunk before I knew it.

I had not been from home for a long time—all the better reason why I should have a change now—and when I called together Mrs. Randolph and the servants and told them of my intention of leaving on the early morning train it created quite a sensation in the house and no little fun.

But I had the best of explanations to give. I had been thinking of my dead friend, and conscience would not let me neglect her dear and possibly unhappy progeny any longer. I had prepared many times to visit them, and now I was going to do it. When I came to a decision, it was usually suddenly, and I never rested after having once made up my mind.

My sentiment went so far that I got down an old album and began hunting up the pictures I had brought away with me from boarding school. Hers were among them, and I really did experience more than less compunction when I saw again the delicate yet daring features which had once had a very great influence over my mind. What a teasing sprite she was, yet what a will she had, and how strong it was that, having been so intimate as girls, we never knew anything of each other as women! Had it been her fault or my fault? Was her marriage to blame for it or my spinsterhood? Difficult to tell then, impossible to tell now. I would not even think of it again, save as a warning. Nothing must stand between me and her children now that my attention has been called to them again.

I did not mean to take them by surprise—that is, not entirely. The invitation which they had sent me years ago was still in force, making it simply necessary for me to telegraph them that I had decided to make them a visit and that they might expect me by the noon train. If, in times gone by, they had been properly instructed by their mother as to the character of her old friend, this need not put them out. I am not a woman of unbounded expectations. I do not look for the comforts abroad I am accustomed to at home, and, if I have reason to believe, their means are not of the greatest. I should only be provoked at any extra effort to make me feel at home in the humble cottage suited to their fortunes.

So the telegram was sent and my preparations completed for an early day's part.

But, resolved as I was to make this visit, my determination came near receiving a check. Just as I was leaving the house, at the very moment, in fact, when the hackman was carrying out my trunk, I saw a man approaching me with every evidence of haste. He had a letter in his hand, which he held out to me as soon as he came within reach.

"For Miss Butterworth," he said. "Private and immediate."

"Ah," thought I, "a communication from Mr. Gryce," and hesitated for a moment whether to open it then and there or thrust it in my pocket and read it later.

It is my leisure on the cars. The latter course would be far the easiest, for my hands were cumbered with the various small articles I consider indispensable to the comfortable enjoyment of the shortest journey, and the glasses without which I cannot read a word were in the very bottom of my pocket under some other equally necessary articles of smaller size.

But something in the man's expectant look warned me that he would never leave me till I had read the note, so with a sigh I called Lola to my aid, and after several vain attempts to reach my glasses succeeded in pulling them out at last and by their help reading the following hurried lines:

"DEAR MADAM—I send you this by a swifter messenger than myself. Do not let anything that I may have said last night influence you to leave your comfortable home. The adventure offers too many dangers for a woman Read the enclosed."

The enclosed was a telegram from Obadiah Trumbull, sent during the night, and evidently just received at headquarters. Its contents were certainly not reassuring:

"Another person missing. Seen to have entered Lost Man's Lane. Never seen to have come out of it. A barefoot lad known as 'Silky Rufus.' What's to be done? Wire orders."

"Mr. Gryce bade me say that he would be up here some time before noon," said the man, seeing me look with some blankness at these words.

Nothing more was needed to pull me together. Rolling up the letter, I put it in my bag.

"So to Mr. Gryce from me that my intended visit shall be postponed," I remarked. "I have telegraphed to my friends to expect me, and only a great emergency would lead me to disappoint them. I will be glad to receive Mr. Gryce on my return." And without further parley I took my bundles back from Lola and proceeded at once to the carriage. Why should I show any fail of courage at an event that was but a repetition of the very one which

caught there. He was evidently preparing to make a good impression and to do no suitable honor.

My companion, who was the eldest man I ever saw, did not speak a word while descending the hill. I talked and endeavored to make him, too, but his replica were mere grunts or half syllables which conveyed no information whatever. As we cleared the thicket, however, he allowed himself an ejaculation or two as he pointed out the beauties of the landscape. And indeed it was well worth his admiration and mine had my mind been free to enjoy it. But the houses which now began to appear on either side of the way drew my attention from the mountains. We were still somewhat remote from town, were rapidly approaching the head of that lane of evil fame with whose terrible history my thoughts were at this time full. I was so anxious not to pass it without one look into its grottoes that I kept my head persistently turned that way till I felt it was attracting the attention of my companion. As this was not desirable I put on a nonchalant look and began chattering about what I saw. But he had lapsed into his early silence, and only answered by a snap of his whip at the horse whose jolt needed a little urging.

Suddenly I myself grew still. The houses were growing fewer on the left hand side of the way, and I saw beyond the dark tangle of a pine thicket. We were nearing Lost Man's Lane, we were about it, we were—turning into it. I could not repress the exclamation that escaped me.

"Where are we going?" I asked.

"To Miss Knollys' house," he found words to say, snuffing his horse again, but with a sidelong glance at me this time full of uneasiness.

"Do they live on this road?" said I, responding with a certain shock to Mr. Gryce's suspicion of the two young ladies who with their brother inhabited the dilapidated mansion marked in the map he had shown me.

"'Certainly,'" was the laconic answer, and, obliged to be satisfied with this, I drew myself up just long enough to look behind me at the cheerful highway we were so rapidly leaving. A cottage, with an open window, in which a child's head could be seen nodding eagerly toward me, met my eyes and filled me with quite an odd sense of discomfort as I realized that I had caught the attention of one of the little cripples who, according to Mr. Gryce, always kept watch over this entrance into Lost Man's Lane. Another moment and the pine branches had shut the vision out, but I did not soon forget that eager, childlike face and pointing hand marking me out as the intruder if not a possible victim to the horrors of this ill-reputed lane. But I was aware of no secret flitting from the adventure into which I was plunging. On the contrary, I felt a strange and fierce delight in thus being thrust into the very heart of this mystery which I had only expected to approach by degrees. The warning message sent me by Mr. Gryce had acquired under it a deeper and more significant meaning, as did the locks which had been cast out by the station master and his gossips on the hillside, but in my present mood these very tokens of the serious nature of my undertaking only gave an added spur to my courage. I felt my brain clear and my heart expand, as if even now before I had so much as set eyes on the faces of these young people I recognized the fact that they were the victims of a web of circumstances so tragic and incomprehensible that only a woman like myself would be able to clear them away and restore these girls to the confidence of the people around them.

I forgot that these girls had a brother and that—But not a word to forestall the truth. I wish this story to grow upon you just as it did upon me, and with just as little preparation.

The farmer who drove me, and whom I afterward learned was called Simsbury, showed a certain dogged interest in my behavior that would have amused me at least had I been aware of my disdain under circumstances of a less thrilling nature. I saw his eye roll in a sort of wonder over my person which may have been held a little more stiffly than was necessary and settle finally on my face with a look I might have thought complimentary had I had any thought to bestow on such matters. Not till we had passed the path branching up through the woods toward the mountain did he set off to withdraw it, nor did I fail to find it fixed again upon me as we rode by the little hut occupied by the old woman considered so harmless by Mr. Gryce.

Perhaps he had a reason for this, as I was very much interested in this but and its occupant, about which I felt free to cherish my own secret doubts—so interested that I cast it a very sharp glance and was glad when I caught a glimpse through the doorway of the old crone's bent form and toothless jaws nibbling over a piece of bread she was engaged in eating as we passed her.

"Mother Jane," explained my companion, breaking the silence of many minutes. "And you are Miss Knollys," he added, lifting his whip and pointing toward the half concealed facade of a large and pretentious dwelling a few rods farther on down the road. "She will be powerful glad to see you, miss."

Company is scarce in these parts.

Astonished at this sudden launch into conversation by one whose reserve even I had found it impossible to penetrate, I gave him the affable answer he evidently expected and then looked eagerly toward the house. It was as Mr. Gryce had intimated, eminently forbidding even at that distance, and as we approached nearer and I was given a full view of its worn and discolored front I felt myself forced to acknowledge that never in my life had my eyes fallen upon a habitation more given over to neglect or less promising in its hospitalities.

Had it not been for the thin circle of smoke eddying up from one of its broken chimneys I should have looked upon the place as one which had not known the care or presence of man for years. There was a riot of shrubbery in the yard, a lack of the commonest attention to order in the way the vines drooped in tangled masses over the very face of the desolate porch, that gave to the broken pilasters and decayed window frames of this dreariest of facades that look of abandonment which only becomes picturesque when nature has usurped the prerogative of man and

taken entirely to herself the empty walls and falling casements of what was once a human dwelling. That any one should be living in it now and that I, who have never been able to see a chair standing crooked or a curtain awry without a sensation of the keenest discomfort, should be on the point of deliberately entering its doors as an inmate filled me at the moment with such a sense of uneasiness that I descended from the carriage in a sort of a dream and was making my way through one of the gaps in the high antique fence that separated the yard from the gateway when Mr. Simsbury stopped me and pointed out the gate.

I did not think it worth while to apologize for the broken palings certainly offered as good an entrance as the gate, which had slipped from its hinges and hung but a few inches open. But I took the course he indicated, holding up my skirts as well as my pack-ages would allow and treading gingerly for fear of the snaths and toads that I imagined such portions of the path as the weeds had left visible. As I went on something in the silence of the spot struck me. Was I becoming over-sensitive to impressions or was there something really menacing in the absolute lack of such dimension? But I should not have said no more, for at that instant I saw a flash in one of the upper windows as of a certain being stealthily drawn and as scathingly let fall again, and though it gave me the promise of some sort of greeting there was a trepidation in the action that was so in keeping with the suspicion of Mr. Gryce that I felt my nerves braced at once to mount the half dozen uninviting looking steps that led to the front door.

But no sooner had I done this with what I am fain to think was my best than I suddenly collapsed with what must have been a movement of sudden and to me quite incomprehensible fear, for, while I do not quite before men and have a reasonable fortitude in the presence of most dangers corporeal and moral, I am not quite myself in face of a ravening and barking dog. It is one weakness. I can divulge that much now, and while I usually can, and under most circumstances do, succeed in hiding my outward manifestation of my inner trepidation I always feel that it would be a happy day for me when dogs would be banished from the affections and homes of men. Then I think I would begin to live in good earnest and perhaps enjoy trips into the country which now, forall my apparent bravery, I regard more in the light of a penance than a pleasure.

Imagine then, how hard I found it to retain my self-possession or even any appearance of dignity when at the moment I was stretching forth my hand toward the knocker of this inhospitable mansion I heard rising from somewhere

I never rightly knew where of a dog so keen, piercing and prolonged that it frightened the very birds over my head and sent them flying from the vines in clouds.

It was the unhappiest kind of welcome for me. I did not know whether it came from within or without, and when after a moment of indecision I saw the door open I am not sure whether the gait I called up to grace the occasion had any of the real Amelia Butterworth in it, so much was my mind divided between a desire to produce a favorable impression and a very decided and not to be hidden fear of the dog who had greeted my arrival with such an ominous howl.

"Call off the dog!" I cried almost before I saw what sort of person I was addressing.

Mr. Gryce, when I told him of this later, said I could not have made a more significant introduction of myself to the Knollys mansion.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

**Hatty's Poor.**  
Marvelous economy is practised by the poor of Italy in looking after the wants of the inner man. Coffee grounds from the wealthy man's kitchen are dried and resold to the poor. In this way oil is twice, and sometimes three times used, the drippings after each successive frying being gathered from the pan and sold to the poor.

**A Mexican Law.**  
The laws of Mexico provide that a woman who wishes to take a second wife must present certificate, signed by his first help-meet, to the effect that she is willing; and he must also have the express consent of the second wife and her parents.

**Cheshire Cheese.**  
Cheshire cheese owes its excellence partly to geological causes, the red sandstone and boulders clay, with its immense salt deposits, of which the country is formed, producing an herbaceous peculiarly suited for cheese production.

**Australian Aborigines.**  
The Australian aborigines are now ranked by ethnographers as fifth or sixth in the list of so called natural races, the Veddas of Ceylon being the lowest in the scale of savage culture.

**Glass in Manila.**  
The best houses in the city of Manila are of stone and are handsome residences. Glass is not used for the windows, which are glazed with translucent ostrich shells.

**Wonders of the Turnip.**  
A turnip seed increases its own weight fifteen times in a minute. On hard ground turnips have been found to increase by growth 15,999 times the weight of their seed each day they stand upon it.

**Waste of Time.**  
Before a fire brigade can start for a fire in Berlin the members must all fall in line in military fashion and salute their captain. This proceeding wastes at least three minutes.

**Before taking his seat on the driver's seat gave me a furtive glance as he stooped to tear from one of the spikes a bit of rag that seemed to have been**

KEELY DIRECTORS MEET.

Rumors of a Life Insurance Policy For \$100,000.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 1.—The monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Keely Motor Company, which it was announced would be held to-day, did not occur. The Secretary of the company said he had not heard from President B. L. Ackerman of New York, who, it was announced, was to come to the board the substance of an interview he is alleged to have had with Mrs. Keely relative to any intelligent explanation he could give of his wife's work.

It is said that Keely left an insurance policy on his life for \$100,000 in favor of Mrs. Keely, but it cannot be confirmed.

**Third of Being Hanged, Mrs. Blanche E. Atkinson.**—Mrs. Atkinson, alias "Peggy" Hart, who has been a fugitive from justice, charged with the murder of Victor Corbett at Dubois on April 25, 1896, and for whose apprehension a reward of \$500 was being offered, has been standing, a shrewd-looking old woman, in the Sheriff's office and surrounded by himself. He walked over from Dubois, a distance of twenty-four miles, through a blinding snow-storm. Hart said that he had travelled all over the country, and was tired of such a life of such dimensions. But I should not have said no more, for at that instant I saw a flash in one of the upper windows as of a certain being stealthily drawn and as scathingly let fall again, and though it gave me the promise of some sort of greeting there was a trepidation in the action that was so in keeping with the suspicion of Mr. Gryce that I felt my nerves braced at once to mount the half dozen uninviting looking steps that led to the front door.

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## The Mercury.

John P. Astor, Editor and Manager.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1898.

The next House of Representatives will contain 177 Republicans, 159 Democrats, 3 Silver Republicans, 5 Populists, and 3 Fusionists. In Kentucky the Republicans have gained two members by the decision of the State Election Commission.

The authorities made no mistake when they appointed Mr. John H. Campbell of the Pawtucket Valley Gleaner, postmaster of Pawtucket. He is the right man in the right place, and we congratulate Brother Campbell on his success.

It has been decided by the navy department to sell the monitor *Wyandotte*, now at the League Island Navy Yard. This will be a good chance to buy a second hand monitor cheap. Perhaps Spain might like it as a foundation on which to build a new navy.

One redeeming feature of the worse than useless six days' bogue race in New York is its supervision by the New York board of health. If any man is found to be suffering physically he is removed from the contest. This tends to reduce the chances of permanent injury to the contestants.

Congress began its short session on Monday last. While there are many momentous questions of state to be settled in the near future it is probable that little will be done at this session beyond the passage of the appropriation bills, and the ratification of the treaty to be signed at Paris.

We give in another part of this paper the President's message in full. It is probably one of the ablest state papers ever issued by any President and it should be carefully read by everyone who is interested in the progress of the country and who wishes a complete and concise history of the events which lead up to the declaring of war with Spain, and also the conduct of that war so speedily to a successful issue.

It has been well stated that the message furnishes the best history of the Spanish war yet written. President McKinley has never yet been found wanting in any position in which his countrymen have placed him. He has conducted this war in a marvelous manner and if Congress will only follow his lead he will settle the great questions growing out of the war in a manner that will reflect great credit upon the nation.

Dr. James B. Hanford of Warwick, for the past eleven years a member of the General Assembly from that town, died quite suddenly on Monday night last. Dr. Hanford was a native of New Hampshire but had resided in this state since 1871. He had a large practice as a physician and has been for many years past the town physician of Warwick. He was also a member of the board of state charities and corrections. His funeral took place yesterday afternoon. The committee appointed by the Governor and speaker to attend the funeral were: Senators William G. Roscoe of Warwick, John Warner of Coventry and Henry P. Ellidge of East Greenwich; Representatives Henry D. Hayden, Randal A. Harrington, Charles E. Chapman of Warwick, Charles C. Gray of Providence, and Edward Thayer of Pawtucket.

There must be something wrong with the banks in Providence. The value of bank stocks in that city has been decreasing for years. Owing to this depreciation in values the school funds of the state which have for many years been almost wholly invested in Providence bank stock have decreased over one hundred thousand dollars. This decrease in value has been going on gradually and continuously, and is to be attributed to the part of any one that the state has lost that much money. Still it should not be allowed to go on longer. These stocks should be sold and as much as possible realized on them and the money re-invested in something that will not fluctuate all the time in the downward direction.

While the stocks of the national banks in Providence have been constantly decreasing in value the Newport bank stocks have been continuously on the increase. No bank stock here sells for less than par and most of the banks bring a large premium.

By the vote of the City Council Tuesday night the city has entered into a seven year's contract with the Newport Illuminating Company to furnish lights for the public streets. By the terms of the contract the Illuminating Company will pay the city a tax of one per cent on its gross receipts in addition to the tax which they now pay, and the Company also comes under obligation to put their wires underground as fast as practicable. The contract is an evidently fair one for both parties, and the city is by it relieved from having its streets, sidewalks, etc., encumbered with more poles and wires as would have been the case had some outside rival concern been allowed to come in and take possession of the town. By the terms of the contract as the number of lights is increased the price per light is increased in that proportion. To show that under this contract the city is not being overtaxed for light we append the prices prevailing in other cities of New England and New York:

City.	Number of lights	Candle power	Price paid per light per week
Boston	244	9000	\$25.00
Brooklyn	337	10000	\$25.00
Charleston	350	10000	\$25.00
Charleston	159	10000	\$25.00
Charleston	232	10000	\$25.00
Charleston	179	10000	\$25.00
Albany, N. Y.	132	10000	\$25.00
Baltimore	459	10000	\$25.00
Providence	185	10000	\$25.00
Woonsocket	110	10000	\$25.00

## The "Open Door" Policy.

"The phrase 'open door policy,' which is not being talked about so much in the newspapers," says Mr. Dugay, "means simply equality of treatment and free trade."

"As applied to the dependency of a country, it simply means that imports from all countries are to be admitted on the same terms as imports from the mother country. As applied to the Philippines, it would mean that imports from Great Britain and all other foreign countries are to be admitted at the same rate of duty as imports from the United States.

"Of course, this policy could not be applied to the Philippines if they should be admitted into the union with territorial form of government, because the constitution provides that states shall be uniform within the United States, unless there should be an amendment to the constitution permitting this.

"Whether it would be possible to apply this policy to the Philippines after they should become a part of the territory of the United States under the previous of the constitution which authorizes Congress to 'make equal rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property of the United States,' I am not prepared to say. It is not likely, however, that in the legislation providing for the annexation of Hawaii, passed at the last session of Congress, it was provided that the territorial tariff should continue in force until Congress should otherwise determine.

"It is to be borne in mind, however, that the present talk about opening policy for the Philippines is intended to apply only to those islands which would be permanent and not to apply to those islands after they shall have been formally recognized as a part of the United States.

"In the discussion of the 'open door' policy I notice that many papers assume that it is the uniform policy of Great Britain in her relations with her colonies. It should be borne in mind, however, that there is a colony, exception to this in the case of Cuba, which is an independent colony which admits imports from Great Britain at 25 per cent. less duty than they are admitted from the United States and other countries.

"It is understood that this policy was adopted by the U. S. at the suggestion, at least, with the approval of Mr. Chamberlain, British secretary for the colonies and that he is urging other colonies of Great Britain to give similar preference to that country."

## The Rural Mail Delivery.

Two carriers who will deliver the mail from the Island post offices have received their instructions from Washington. They are required to be civil and obliging; to attend quietly to their duties, and under no circumstances to enter or stop for unnecessary conversation on their routes; to abstain from drinking intoxicating liquors while on duty, and to maintain sobriety at all times. Rural carriers will make their rounds daily, Sundays and legal holidays excepted. They may, if they choose, meet the wishes of their patrons by making a delivery on Christmas Day; but this is optional with them, and is not obligatory.

They are allowed to carry parcels, to receive subscriptions for newspapers, to receive and deliver telegrams (envelopes, stamps to be properly canceled), and to perform other like services for patrons on their routes, providing their doing as does not interfere with the expeditious delivery of the mail. Outside mail which is carried must be kept separate and distinct from the mail.

The question of compensation for extra service thus rendered is one of private arrangement between the carriers and the patrons of the delivery. They may also carry passengers, but no person thus conveyed must under any circumstances be permitted to handle the mail.

Rural carriers are forbidden to give any information as to the mail matter carried by them to any person other than the person to whom such mail matter is addressed, or to exhibit such mail matter except to the person to whom it is addressed. Rural carriers will take with them a small supply of postage stamps, postal cards, etc., to accommodate their patrons; and when postage letters, etc., are deposited in the boxes, with the requisite amount of money to pay the postage, they are authorized to affix the proper stamps thereto. The patrons of the delivery should provide proper boxes for the reception of the mails. Failure to do so will be regarded as an indication that the service is not desired. Carriers are not required to go to houses or collect mail when those houses stand back any considerable distance from the road.

The time for registering for 1899 will close on December 1st of this year—in about three weeks. It is therefore important for all those who expect to qualify as voters and who pay no property tax to go to the city clerk's office at once, and put their names on the list. Next year there will be the effects to be chosen in April and the Mayor and other city officers in November. As long as it costs nothing to vote, besides the trouble of going to the city clerk's office, it would seem that not much urging would be required to get that done.

There are now eight transports, carrying about 7,000 soldiers, on their way across the Pacific Ocean from San Francisco to Manila. When all have arrived our army there will number between 25,000 and 30,000 men. The Iowa and Oregon are on their way around Cape Horn, and the Buffalo and Helena are proceeding by the Suez route.

Representative Morrill of Vermont on Tuesday introduced in Congress a bill to establish the grade of admiral for the recognition of the meritorious services of Rear Admiral Dewey. This is as it should be. The hero of Manila is deserving of all the honors that have been suggested for him.

The Merchants and Miners Transportation Company has bought the Mayflower steamship of Texaco to take the place of the wrecked *Fairfax*. The Texaco will ply on the Providence-Norfolk-Baltimore line.

## Appropriations for this Vicinity.

The estimates of the secretary of the treasury for appropriations for the ensuing year locate under the head of naval and harbor improvements \$23,623. The New England Post office being \$16,751; Providence river and Narragansett Bay \$10,000; improving harbor at Boston, \$100,000; harbor at Newburyport, \$100,000; harbor at New Haven, \$100,000; harbor at Point Judith, \$10,000; breakwaters at New Haven, \$100,000.

The estimate of the light house service includes \$35,000 for Hog Island lightship, Narragansett Bay.

The total estimates of appropriations for the year amount to \$593,013,378.

Mrs. Eliza Chapin, 21 years old, daughter of William W. Chapin, of Providence, committed suicide at her home, Benfield street, Monday morning, by latching illuminating gas. Temporary mental aberration is supposed to be the cause, due to overstudy. Miss Chapin was one of the most brilliant young women on the East side. Mr. Chapin is well known in this city. He was for many years Secretary of the State Board of Charities and Corrections. He will win the sympathy of all in his great affliction.

In the report of the secretary of war the official figures of casualties are: killed 23 officers, 257 men, wounded 112 officers, 1,101 men. All of the 23 officers killed were in Cuba. In Porto Rico only 3 men were killed and 4 officers and 38 men wounded; the remaining casualties were in Manila. It is a wonderful record, under any circumstances, and particularly so when the superb armament of the Spanish is considered.

The work of the peace commission is completed and nothing now remains to be done but to affix the signatures of the two commissioners to the treaty. The Spaniards refused to sell a coal station in the Carolinas or even to discuss such a proposition, but the United States rejected all the main points in the contention. All the members of both commissions are nearly worn out by the long strain to which they have been subjected.

Captain Ray Allen, a well-known former sound navigator died in Providence on Monday. He had not been in good health for some time, but his death was unexpected. The body was taken to Stonington for burial on Wednesday. Captain Allen was connected with the Stonington line from 1885 to 1887. Since that time he has resided in Providence.

Private Maxwell of the 2d United States Artillery, the assistant of Professor Crowley, was given a hearing before United States Commissioner Brown yesterday and was held for the grand jury in the sum of \$500.

Potter's Weather Bulletin.

St. JOSEPH, Mo., Dec. 10.—My last bulletin gave forecast of the storm wave to cross the continent from 10 to 14, and the next will reach the Pacific coast about 16, cross west of Rockies country by close of 18, great central valleys 17 to 19, eastern states 20.

Waves will cross west of Rockies country about 15, great central valleys 17, eastern states 19. Great wave will cross west of Rockies country about 18, great central valleys 20, eastern states 22.

Temperature of the week ending 8 a. m. December 20, will average above normal east of the Rockies and below west.

Precipitation for the same period will be below normal east of the Rockies and above west.

A great fall of temperature will occur in the southern states from 10 to 14, east of Dec. 10-12 and will be accompanied by heavy rains. In the northern states the fall in temperature will not be so great and will occur from 10 to 25.

A great warm wave is expected to cross from the Rockies to the Atlantic from 13 to 22 and cold weather about the same time on the Pacific slope.

There will be five issues of The New England's Companion in December. The first of these, dated December 1st, William Dean Howells will contribute a humorous story, entitled "The Abandoned Watercolor Patch." The issue of December 8th will contain Hon. Thomas B. Reed's article, "The Organization of Congress," the third and last of the series of articles on political organization. For the issue of December 15th (Christmas number) the Marquis de Sade has written a pleasant article, "How the Queen Spends Christmas," describing the holiday festivities of England's reigning family. In the issue of December 22d will appear an article by Mme. Julian Norden, recalling "Incidents in a Singer's Life," while the last number of the 1898 volume, that of December 29th, will contain a sketch by Israel Zangwill, describing "How the Queen Spends Christmas," describing the holiday festivities of England's reigning family. In the issue of December 22d will appear an article by Mme. Julian Norden, recalling "Incidents in a Singer's Life," while the last number of the 1898 volume, that of December 29th, will contain a sketch by Israel Zangwill, describing "How the Queen Spends Christmas,"

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## THE WEEK'S NEWS.

SATURDAY, DEC. 3.

Of the 23 bodies recovered from the Portland, 19 have been identified; search for others being carried on along Cape Cod—Secretary Alger makes a voluminous report to the president covering the operations of the Spanish war—Anxiety for the United States gunboat *Europa*, which has not been heard from since Sunday, when she was supposed to have left Havana—Steamship London six days overdue at London, and it is feared she has broken down or met with disaster—Probable that the schooner King Philip struck on Peaked Hill bars, trying to make by the capes—British schooner *Mazatlan* picks up rich prize at sea, the bark *Esmeralda*, with cargo valued at \$6,000—General Wood formally joins the reorganized supreme court of Santiago province—Mrs. Mary H. Durfee committed to the Salem, Mass., jail on a charge of murdering her daughter—Harden's report on Filippo finances says there is \$15,000,000 in circulation on a silver basis, and an export trade in 1897 of \$4,000,000—Opposition objects to the proposed increase of the army—State of George H. Leigh of Illinois—Daniel Lynch falls into a coal chute at Newburyport and smothers to death—Reports from lighthouse keepers show that great damage was done government property in the big storm—Many favorable trade features reported by Bradstreet's—Captain McKay, a Florida pilot, tells war investigating committee at Washington that perfect order prevailed in embarkation of troops—Spaniards continue their policy of diplomatic fencing—Justin D. Fulton stoned by angry crowd at Gloucester, C. B.—Death of Colonel G. A. Sanders, Lincoln, N. H.—B. J. Wefers, the famous sprinter, has bidden farewell to New York, and will henceforth wear the colors of the Boston Athletic association—Dry goods store of H. N. Bradley & Co., at Denver, closed under an attachment secured by the Merchants' National bank of New York; bailiffs said to be about \$16,000—Charles Mann, a negro, hanged at Helena, Ark. He was convicted of the murder of Frank Duberry, a white man.

SUNDAY, DEC. 4.

Judge Day thinks peace treaty will be signed next week—Ladies of the Portland victims brought to Boston; watchers along the shore waiting for the bark—Six men killed by a steam pipe explosion on the Maliby liner *Alamo* at New York—Thirteen men burned by explosion in a Wilkesbarre (Pa.) coal mine—Loss of the British steamer London—Sixth Massachusetts regiment will be mustered out of the United States service Jan. 3—The Pentagonal probably lost; last sighted off Peaked Hill bars—Nevadans declare herself independent of Central American Republic—Battle between snow plows and snow shovels in Revere, Mass.—E. F. Harney, former insurance agent, wanted in Worcester, Mass., for alleged embezzlement, caught in Chicago—Foreign military occupation of Pekin may prove a necessity—Two South Boston children seriously burned by a gun cotton explosion—Committee of Cleveland Bar association recommends expulsion of State Senator Burke—Enthusiastic meeting in Paris in favor of Dreyfus—Harvard graduates give a dinner to the football team; Colonel Roosevelt a speaker—Elkes defeat Taylor in an hour bicycle race at Madison Square Garden—Body of Watchman John Ward found in the ruins of the Squire factory at Cambridge, Mass.—Peter McDonald ran over by snow plow and killed at Attleboro, Mass.—President of the Argentine recommends ratification of extradition treaty with United States—Thomas Beckwith of Boston gives himself up to Chicago police and confesses to embezzeling \$15,000—Rev. John M. Foster of Bangor, Me., will rector of the Church of the Messiah, Boston.

MONDAY, DEC. 5.

Six-day bicycle race started at Madison Square garden, New York, at midnight, with 30 starters—William Thorn, delegate from the British trades union congress, addresses the Central Labor union of Boston, and mass meeting of strikers at Marlboro—Thomas J. Keenan of Pittsburg said to be sure of election to the U. S. presidency—Newfoundlanders look for no agreement on fisheries question between Canadian and American commissioners, and are hopeful of the Bond-Bradish arrangement, slightly modified—Rev. Father Daley of St. Mary's church, Waltham, receives a threatening letter, warning him not to say anything in opposition to icons—An attempt to be made to raise the cruiser *Relina Mercedes* in Santiago harbor—Contingent on Broadway, New York, players *Peer & Co.*'s building in ruins; Home Life insurance company, Postal Telegraph and United States Life insurance company's buildings, all slate scrapers, burning at this morning; property loss estimated at \$1,000,000—Controller Davies opposes granting exclusive currency privileges to banks in exchange for assistance to maintain the gold standard, and favors intercolonial branch banking in Hawaii and Porto Rico—Henry M. Whitney successfully operated upon for appendicitis.

TUESDAY, DEC. 6.

Three more bodies thought to be from the Portland washed up, two near Chatfield and one at Hove point; patrol of the shores of Cape Cod kept up—Congress opens and bears the message—Pierce of Boston leads the six-day bicycle riders at New York, with Miller and Walker close up—Secretary of the treasury estimates the need of \$55,000,000 for the expenses of the next fiscal year—Foster will not stand for re-election to U. S. presidency—Loss by burning of the Alton, Ill., woolen mill will exceed \$15,000—Portland, Me., visited by a \$6,000 fire—Anxiety at Portland for barges abandoned by the tug *Katadin* off that city—Frank J. Gould arrives at his majority and comes into possession of \$10,000—Lord Wolseley elected an honorary member of the British Army and Navy Veterans' association of Boston—British commissioners sorrowful over President McKinley's ignoring the Clayton-Bulwer treaty in the reference to the Nicaraguan canal—Americans hold the Spanish sternly to work; says Judge Day to the argument that nomination can't go outside the protocol: "A peace treaty can contain nothing the victors put into it"—Silver of New York introduces resolution in the house for an authoritative investigation of the conduct of the war.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 7.

Four men killed by the explosion of a mine on Castle Island, Boston harbor—Contract for a full plant for rope making at the Boston navy yard—Mrs. Martha Moore Avery meets with hostility from Marlboro audience.

HARPER'S WEEKLY  
THE NATION'S WEEKLY

Will continue to give week by week during 1898, by means of illustrations and text, all the important news of the world in a clear and concise manner.

## POLITICS

Independent party, devoted to good government, and will continue to support or disapprove, whatever the nation may be.

**Cuba and the Philippines**  
Special articles will appear on these two countries by Messrs. Phil. Robinson and E. D. Miller, both of whom made special journeys to the islands.

## . . . THE BEST . . .

## PICTORIAL HISTORY OF THE YEAR

What HARPER'S WEEKLY has been in the year and will be in the future. The great work accomplished in the last Spanish-American war is characteristic of the WEEKLY'S steady and energetic policy.

**SERIAL STORIES**  
WHEN THE SLEEPER WAKES. By H. G. Wells  
WITH SWORD AND CRUCIFIX. By E. S. Van Zile  
THE CONSPIRATORS. By R. W. Chambers

**Some Short-Story Contributors**  
W. E. Norris, Owen Hall, H. S. Williams  
E. F. Benson, H. S. Williams  
F. J. McCarthy, H. S. Merriman  
John Corbin, M. S. Briscoe

## . . . THE WEST . . .

and its industries will be treated in a series of articles by Franklin Matthews.

**The London Letter**  
will be written by Arnold White, and will be full of timely matter.

**AMATEUR ATHLETICS**  
will be continued weekly by its well-known editor, Mr. Caspar Whitney

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## IN HUB MARKETS.

## Butter Trade Dull and in Favor of Buyers.

**Further Advance to Chees—Eggs Fairly Steady—but Little Change in the Flour Situation—Butter and Lumb Show Better Prices—Moderate Demand for Game Fruits and Vegetables.**

**Boston, Dec. 9.—**Butter has a steady, moderate sale at slightly lower prices than the figures with which the week opened. It is possible for buyers to secure some pretty good creamy stock around 20¢/lb.

Cheese is still, with some of the upper grades a little higher. Fine New York and Vermont cheese range from 16¢ up to 105¢.

For 35¢ there is a fair call, but the market is somewhat better supplied and values are not so stiff.

Butter market is not bad, according to yesterday's entry, not on the easier tone on this side. Cheese, however, is firm and higher.

In other centers:

**Boston.**—New York firm at 20¢, Chicago lower at 19¢/lb.

**Cheese.**—New York firm, large 16¢, small 10¢/lb.; Liverpool, white 4¢, colored 48¢.

**Eggs.**—New York steady at 24¢/lb., Chicago unchanged at 22¢/22¢c, St. Louis steady at 19¢.

**Receipts in principal markets:**

**Boston.**—Butter 316 lbs, \$1.51 bds, weighing 197,032 lbs; cheese 461 pkgs., eggs 1705 cts.

**New York.**—Butter 3450 pkgs., cheese 3350 pkgs., eggs 5200 cts.

**Chicago.**—Butter 3540 lbs, 600,000 lbs, cheese 775,000 lbs, eggs 1400 cts.

For the finest lots of western and northern 21 cents was asked, and this was paid by one or two buyers who were short on fine goods, but the general feeling was that 20 to 25 cents was a full rate for the best offered in a wholesale way, in large and assorted size tubs. Some receivers thought that no more than 20 cents should be quoted, as there would be plenty offered at that price before the week was out.

The best fresh creamy in boxes sold at 21¢ cents, but this was considered a top rate, and plenty of stock carried over from previous receipts could be bought at a lower price if buyers showed any disposition to operate. In fact, after passing the finest fresh prices were easily in buyers' favor.

The high cost of cheese in the country has necessitated a further advance here, and 21 cents is quoted for the finest northern whey, with large sizes at 105¢. Most of the sales were at 10 to 120¢ cents. The demand here is rather light, but holders are quite firm in their views and are confident that full prices will rule during the remainder of the month.

The egg market is fairly steady at 25 to 26 cents for choice fresh Michigan and northern Indiana and Ohio, and 27 cents for special marks. Ordinary western plentiful at 22 to 24 cents. Fresh eastern sell at 26 to 28 cents. Refrigerator stock firm at 16 to 18 cents. The stock in cold storage was reduced last week 6250 cases, and stands at 25,717 cases, against 31,663 cases the same time last year. During four weeks in November the stock was reduced 31,733 cases, against 36,161, the same time a year ago.

The flour market is rather quiet here, with the tendency rather easy. The wheats were generally down and hence no particular intuitions were received from the mills. Mill shipment prices are unchanged. Trade committee prices are unchanged. Spring wheat, clear, 13¢/13.75¢, patent, 13.50¢/14.75¢; winter wheat, clear, 14.25¢/15.50¢; straight, 13.50¢/14.25¢.

The New York World is out with a \$100,000 flour combination, designed to put all the big flouring concerns under one head. The trade here is inclined to put little confidence in the report, since one or two big flouring concerns are tabulated in the list that are known to be entirely outside of anything of the sort, and have vowed that they will have nothing to do with such a combination.

As an item of news in the trade it

will be noted that even Portland, Me., is to have a solid flour train.

The Coseco people having on Saturday shipped 30 cars of 150 barrels to the car to Charles B. Varney of that city.

The train will reach Portland via the New Canadian Pacific and Maine Central.

Cash wheat still remains in the remarkable position of being about equal in price to any of the future months, white being a decided premium over others. In the Minneapolis market cash wheat is at a premium, with millers buying freely on all the slight breaks.

Cornmeal is very steady, with oatmeal unchanged. The cereals are generally unchanged, though rye flour is yet very firm.

Corn is fairly firm, with the demand

## NEW YORK TO HAVANA,

2 Days, 14 Hours and 53 Minutes

## THE HOMESTEAD RAIL WAY'S NEW SERVICE

TO HAVANA.

The Florida East Coast Steamship Co. announces the inauguration of their new line, as far as Havana, Cuba, in connection with the Pennsylvania, Southern, and Atlantic Coast Railways.

The Florida East Coast Rail Way, beginning December 1st.

The Atlantic Steamship "Miami" and "Lumina" will go into commission on that date, and will make a week's trip to Havana, leaving Miami, Fla., on arrival of through trains from the east.

It may be said in connection with the route to Cuba that the port of Miami is the farthest south of any in the United States, and the nearest to the island of Cuba, making the shortest steamer trip, effectively providing against the deleterious features of a long steamer voyage.

The steamship of the Florida East Coast Steamship Company are magnificent specimens of the up-to-date passenger ship, with ample and luxurious accommodations, posh, cuisine and making the finest trip.

The rail ride from New York to Miami is one of exceeding interest and beauty, passing through the most picturesque portion of the south, through the glorious highlands of Virginia and the Carolinas into Florida, with orange groves, pineapples, palms and orange groves.

Miami is the road to plate

right of the Taconic, Hudson River, and

it is safe to say that the well-known

reputation of the Pennsylvania, Southern,

Florida, Central and Louisville and Portland East Coast Rail Way for per-

fection of service over its lines will be amply vindicated by the new service to Cuba.

The possibility of a traveler making the entire trip from New York to Havana will be a trip of only 200 miles and have occupied only two days, fourteen hours and fifty-five minutes New York to Havana is some thing hardly dreamed of before, and which is sure to prove attractive to Cuban travelers.

The service of the Florida East Coast

Steamship Company to Nassau will be inaugurated for this season January 1, 1899, and will run semi-weekly thereafter, except during February and March, when three ships a week will leave Miami for Nassau. It is expected that the Nassau trade this season will be very good, and every provision is now being made to handle the traffic in the same satisfactory way as before.

The Key West service from Miami is three times a week, leaving Miami Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights, on arrival of day train from Jacksonville, "The Steamer, "City of Key West," which performs this latter named service in a magnificent side-wheel steamer, and the trip through the Florida Keys is one of great interest. For full particulars on address Al. L. Chase, 21 Broadway, New York.

I HAVE &amp; FEW JAPANESE NAPKINS

left, which I am giving to my customers for use at

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are reliable. They have been tested and have

proven first quality in every respect.

They have grown well, being good

and healthy, and the yield is

good, and the quality is

superior to any other.

It is ordered that the consideration of said

petition be referred to the Court of Probate,

to be held in Providence, on the 10th day of December next, at 1 o'clock p. m., and that notice thereof be published for fourteen days, once a week at least, in the Newport Mercury.

ALBERT L. CHASE, Probate Clerk.

11-26

Court of Probate, Middletown, R. I., November 21, A. D. 1898.

CHARLES H. WARD, the administrator on the estate of

MARY SMITH, widow, late of Middletown, deceased, presented, pro parte, his account of his estate, which was ordered by this Court.

It is ordered that the consideration of said account be referred to the Court of Probate, to be held in Providence, on the 10th day of December next, at 1 o'clock p. m., and that notice thereof be published for fourteen days, once a week at least, in the Newport Mercury.

ALBERT L. CHASE, Probate Clerk.

11-26

Court of Probate, Middletown, R. I., November 21, A. D. 1898.





